

Applicants : Niall R. Lynam and John O. Lindahl
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REMARKS

Applicants acknowledge the Examiner's review of the specification, claims, and drawings. In light of the above amendments and following remarks, Applicants respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application. No new matter has been entered.

STATUS OF THE CLAIMS:

Claims 130-133, 135-151, 153-163, 165, 167-177, 179-184, 251, and 252 are presently pending in the application. Claims 1-129, 134, 152, and 185-250 were previously canceled. claims 164, 166, and 178 have been cancelled herein.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103:

The Examiner rejects Claims 130-133, 135-138, 152-159, 163, 164, 167-171, 178, and 252 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 5,671,996 to Bos et al. in view of National Semiconductor (LM78S40) Universal Switching Regulator Subsystem Data Sheet.

Applicants respectfully traverse. Notwithstanding, Applicants have amended Claim 130 to more clearly define Applicants' invention, which now calls for:

An improved lighting system for a vehicle, the vehicle having a battery/ignition voltage, said lighting system comprising:

an accessory module assembly adapted for attachment to an interior portion of a vehicle;
 said accessory module assembly comprising a unitary light module;

said unitary light module of said accessory module assembly configured to illuminate an area inside the vehicle when said accessory module assembly is attached to said interior portion of the vehicle;

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said unitary light module comprising a single non-incandescent light source, said single light source comprising a single high-current high-intensity power light emitting diode;

said single high-current high-intensity power light emitting diode delivering a luminous efficiency of at least about 1 lumen/watt when operated at a forward current of at least about 100 milliamps and a forward operating voltage less than about 5 volts;

said unitary light module further comprising a voltage conversion element operable to step-down an input voltage and to step-up an input current, said voltage conversion element having an output voltage and an output current whereby the ratio of said input voltage of said voltage conversion element to said output voltage of said voltage conversion element is at least about 2 to 1 and wherein the ratio of said input current of said voltage conversion element to said output current of said voltage conversion element is at least about 1 to 2; and

said voltage conversion element providing said outputs to said single high-current high-intensity power light emitting diode whereby said output current is at least about 100 milliamps and said output voltage is less than about 5 volts.

Applicants respectfully submit that neither Bos et al. nor the National Semiconductor Universal Switching Regulator Subsystem Data Sheet (hereinafter referred to as NSUSRS Data Sheet) discloses or suggests the claimed combination. For example, neither Bos et al. nor the NSUSRS Data Sheet discloses or suggests a vehicular lighting system with an accessory module assembly that comprises a unitary light module, which unitary light module is configured to illuminate an area inside the vehicle when the accessory module assembly is attached to the interior portion of the vehicle and, further, wherein the unitary light module comprises a single high-current high-intensity power light emitting diode that delivers a luminous efficiency of at least about 1 lumen per watt when operated at a forward current of at least about 100 milliamps and a forward operating voltage of less than 5 volts and, further,

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wherein the unitary light module further comprises a voltage conversion element operable to step-down an input voltage and to step-up an input current wherein the ratio of the input voltage of the voltage conversion element to the output voltage of the voltage conversion element is at least about 2 to 1, in combination with the other claimed features. Applicants have cancelled Claims 164, 166, and 178 in light of the amendments made to Claim 130. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 130 and its dependent claims, including Claims 131-133, 135-138, 152-159, 163, 167-171, and 252, are patentably distinguishable over Bos et al. in view of NSUSRS Data Sheet.

The Examiner rejects Claims 139-151, 160-162, 165, 166, 172-177, 179-184, and 251 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Bos in view of NSUSRS Data Sheet and, further, in view of U.S. Patent No. 3,676,668 to Collins.

Claim 166 has been cancelled herein. Claims 139-151, 160-162, 165, 172-177, 179-184, and 251 are dependent upon amended Claim 130. Accordingly, Claims 139-151, 160-162, 165, 172-177, 179-184, and 251 are patentably distinguishable over Bos in view of NSUSRS Data Sheet for at least the reasons set forth above in reference to Claim 130.

Furthermore, Applicants respectfully submit that Collins does not cure the deficiencies of either Bos or the NSUSRS Data Sheet. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 139-151, 160-162, 165, 172-177, 179-184, and 251 are patentably distinguishable over Bos in view of NSUSRS Data Sheet or in view of Collins.

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wherein the unitary light module further comprises a voltage conversion element operable to step-down an input voltage and to step-up an input current wherein the ratio of the input voltage of the voltage conversion element to the output voltage of the voltage conversion element is at least about 2 to 1, in combination with the other claimed features. Applicants have cancelled Claims 164, 166, and 178 in light of the amendments made to Claim 130. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 130 and its dependent claims, including Claims 131-133, 135-138, 152-159, 163, 167-171, and 252, are patentably distinguishable over Bos et al. in view of NSUSRS Data Sheet.

The Examiner rejects Claims 139-151, 160-162, 165, 166, 172-177, 179-184, and 251 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Bos in view of NSUSRS Data Sheet and, further, in view of U.S. Patent No. 3,676,668 to Collins.

Claim 166 has been cancelled herein. Claims 139-151, 160-162, 165, 172-177, 179-184, and 251 are dependent upon amended Claim 130. Accordingly, Claims 139-151, 160-162, 165, 172-177, 179-184, and 251 are patentably distinguishable over Bos in view of NSUSRS Data Sheet for at least the reasons set forth above in reference to Claim 130.

Furthermore, Applicants respectfully submit that Collins does not cure the deficiencies of either Bos or the NSUSRS Data Sheet. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 139-151, 160-162, 165, 172-177, 179-184, and 251 are patentably distinguishable over Bos in view of NSUSRS Data Sheet or in view of Collins.

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In light of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application and a Notice of Allowance of all claims, namely Claims 130-133, 135-151, 158-163, 165, 167-177, 179-184, and 251-252.

Should the Examiner have any questions or comments, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (616) 975-5506.

Respectfully submitted,

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